

What is claimed is:

1. A search method comprising:

5 specifying a search word included in a search condition designated  
by a user;

obtaining evaluation data that is at least either of a score based  
on an appearance frequency and a number of documents including said search  
word or its synonym, for each of said search word and its synonym;

10 presenting said user with said search word and its synonym and  
the corresponding evaluation data in a manner in which said search word  
or its synonym is selectable; and

presenting said user with data concerning a document including  
said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user.

15 2. The search method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said specifying  
comprises extracting a search word from a sentence input as said search  
condition by a morphological analysis.

20 3. The search method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said obtaining  
evaluation data comprises:

extracting a synonym from said search word; and

25 counting either of said number of documents including said search  
word or its synonym and a first appearance frequency of each of said search  
word and its synonym by searching documents by using said search word  
and its synonym.

4. The search method as set forth in claim 3, wherein said obtaining  
evaluation data further comprises:

30 counting a second appearance frequency of said search word in a  
sentence input as said search condition; and

calculating said score based on said appearance frequency by using  
said second appearance frequency of said search word and said first

appearance frequency of each of said search word and its synonym.

5. The search method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first presenting comprises:

5       judging whether or not said evaluation data of said search word and its synonym satisfies a predetermined condition; and

          presenting said user with said search word or its synonym whose evaluation data satisfies said predetermined condition in a state indicating being pre-selected and said search word or its synonym whose  
10       evaluation data does not satisfy said predetermined condition in a state indicating being unselected.

6. The search method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said predetermined condition is a condition in which said number of documents including said  
15       search word or its synonym is lower than a first threshold, or a condition in which said score based on said appearance frequency for said search word or its synonym exceeds a second threshold.

7. The search method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said second  
20       presenting comprises:

          counting a third appearance frequency of said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user, in said documents including said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user; and

          presenting said user with said documents including said search  
25       word or its synonym that was selected by said user in order of values calculated by using said third appearance frequency.

8. A search program embodied on a medium, said search program comprising:

          specifying a search word included in a search condition designated  
30       by a user;

          obtaining evaluation data that is at least either of a score based on an appearance frequency and a number of documents including said search

word or its synonym, for each of said search word and its synonym;

presenting said user with said search word and its synonym and the corresponding evaluation data in a manner in which said search word or its synonym is selectable; and

5 presenting said user with data concerning a document including said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user.

9. The search program as set forth in claim 8, wherein said specifying comprises extracting a search word from a sentence input as said search  
10 condition by a morphological analysis.

10. The search program as set forth in claim 8, wherein said obtaining evaluation data comprises:

extracting a synonym from said search word; and

15 counting either of said number of documents including said search word or its synonym and a first appearance frequency of each of said search word and its synonym by searching documents by using said search word and its synonym.

20 11. The search program as set forth in claim 10, wherein said obtaining evaluation data further comprises:

counting a second appearance frequency of said search word in a sentence input as said search condition; and

calculating said score based on said appearance frequency by using  
25 said second appearance frequency of said search word and said first appearance frequency of each of said search word and its synonym.

12. The search program as set forth in claim 8, wherein said first presenting comprises:

30 judging whether or not said evaluation data of said search word and its synonym satisfies a predetermined condition; and

presenting said user with said search word or its synonym whose

evaluation data satisfies said predetermined condition in a state indicating being pre-selected and said search word or its synonym whose evaluation data does not satisfy said predetermined condition in a state indicating being unselected.

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13. The search program as set forth in claim 8, wherein said predetermined condition is a condition in which said number of documents including said search word or its synonym is lower than a first threshold, or a condition in which said score based on said appearance frequency for said search word or its synonym exceeds a second threshold.

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14. The search program as set forth in claim 8, wherein said second presenting comprises:

counting a third appearance frequency of said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user, in said documents including said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user; and

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presenting said user with said documents including said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user in order of values calculated by using said third appearance frequency.

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15. A search apparatus, comprising:

a specifier to specify a search word included in a search condition designated by a user;

an obtainer to obtain evaluation data that is at least either of a score based on an appearance frequency and a number of documents including said search word or its synonym, for each of said search word and its synonym;

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a first indicator to present said user with said search word and its synonym and the corresponding evaluation data in a manner in which said search word or its synonym is selectable; and

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a second indicator to present said user with data concerning a document including said search word or its synonym that was selected by

said user.

16. The search method as set forth in claim 15, wherein said specifier  
comprises an extractor to extract a search word from a sentence input  
5 as said search condition by a morphological analysis.

17. The search method as set forth in claim 15, wherein said obtainer  
comprises:

an extractor to extract a synonym from said search word; and  
10 a counter to count either of said number of documents including  
said search word or its synonym and a first appearance frequency of each  
of said search word and its synonym by searching documents by using said  
search word and its synonym.

15 18. The search method as set forth in claim 17, wherein said obtainer  
further comprises:

a second counter to count a second appearance frequency of said  
search word in a sentence input as said search condition; and

a calculator to calculate said score based on said appearance  
20 frequency by using said second appearance frequency of said search word  
and said first appearance frequency of each of said search word and its  
synonym.

19. The search method as set forth in claim 15, wherein said first  
25 indicator comprises:

a processor to judge whether or not said evaluation data of said  
search word and its synonym satisfies a predetermined condition; and

a indicator to present said user with said search word or its  
synonym whose evaluation data satisfies said predetermined condition in  
30 a state indicating being pre-selected and said search word or its synonym  
whose evaluation data does not satisfy said predetermined condition in  
a state indicating being unselected.

20. The search method as set forth in claim 15, wherein said predetermined condition is a condition in which said number of documents including said search word or its synonym is lower than a first threshold, or a condition  
5 in which said score based on said appearance frequency for said search word or its synonym exceeds a second threshold.

21. The search method as set forth in claim 15, wherein said second indicator comprises:

10 a counter to count a third appearance frequency of said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user, in said documents including said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user; and

an indicator to present said user with said documents including  
15 said search word or its synonym that was selected by said user in order of values calculated by using said third appearance frequency.